



T A Y L O R



REFINED BY FIRE

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◀ BEHIND THE COVER

In many ways, Conner '18 and Ciara Faulker '18 are twins. Even though their births are four months apart (Ciara was adopted by the Faulkner family as a small child), the two grew up together, shared life's heartaches and joys with each other, and went through the greatest trial their family has ever faced as brother and sister. While Conner dedicated himself to the task of recovery after a near-fatal accident with a gun, Ciara became one of his greatest encouragers and prayer warriors, frequently posting prayer requests, photos, and reports of his progress to social media. We are privileged to share their story with you in this edition of *Taylor*.





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**20 Refined By Fire**



TAYLOR UNIVERSITY

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Founded in 1846, Taylor University is one of America's oldest Christian liberal arts colleges. Over 2,000 graduate and undergraduate students from 42 states and 30 foreign countries attend Taylor, where majors in 64 fields of study are available. For the tenth year in a row, Taylor University is the number one Midwest University in the category Best Regional Colleges in the 2017 *US News & World Report* survey, *America's Best Colleges*.

The mission of Taylor University is to develop servant leaders marked with a passion to minister Christ's redemptive love and truth to a world in need.



CHRISTIAN COLLEGE CONSORTIUM



Council for Christian Colleges & Universities



*A higher standard.
A higher purpose.*



THE IMPACT OF A SECOND CHANCE

Dr. John Moore '72 had almost decided college was not for him. After struggling in his first semester, he'd contemplated leaving school and enlisting in the military, but decided he should give it one more try. Moore brought a new approach to the following J-Term, and a friend helped him learn better study habits. Soon, he began to enjoy the rigors, challenge, and discovery of learning.

Moore thought he had breezed his world history final, but to his abject horror, learned he had failed to check the back of the test, where there were essay questions that composed a major part of the grade on that exam and in the class. He rushed back to the classroom to ask his professor, who was just wrapping up, if he could please have his test back to finish it.

There was a pause before the professor sighed and asked, "What's your name?" He thumbed through the stack of papers, found Moore's incomplete test, and handed it back to him.

The impact of that second chance is still being felt. After he graduated from Taylor, Moore earned master's and doctorate degrees in biology. He returned to Taylor, where today he is a professor of biology who has mentored dozens of future doctors and biologists and is respected by his colleagues, Christian and secular alike. His achievements include a Fulbright award and the presidencies of the Indiana and National Associations of Biology Teachers. And he continues

to credit that professor whose second chance completed his academic turnaround.

Dr. Roger Jenkinson '62 was that professor. Jenkinson retired this year after 52 years of distinguished service - two years longer than legendary Taylor professor and administrator Burt Ayres. Jenkinson's colleagues, Ron Benbow, Ken Boyd, Faye Chechowich '74, Lee Erickson, Mary Muchiri, Mike Saunier, and Don Taylor, also have retired after dedicated and excellent service to the Lord and to Taylor University. Their students have gone on to become scientists, geographers, pastors, communicators, teachers, husbands, wives, fathers, mothers, and churchpersons - each filling his or her own God-ordained role in the redemption plan for this world.

How many second chances did each of these outstanding faculty extend? The thought, as well as their service, encourages and challenges me. May we each faithfully fill that role to which God has called us.

James R. Garringer H'15
Editor



BERGWALL HALL, HISTORIC PRAYER CHAPEL UNDERGOING RENOVATIONS

ONE IS A HISTORIC SITE BELOVED BY ALUMNI FROM YEARS PAST. THE OTHER IS A RESIDENCE HALL NAMED FOR ONE OF TAYLOR UNIVERSITY'S MOST BELOVED PRESIDENTS. BOTH ARE RECEIVING RENOVATIONS THIS SUMMER THAT WILL BENEFIT THE TAYLOR COMMUNITY FOR YEARS TO COME.

Built in 1989, Bergwall Hall is named for Taylor's late President Evan Bergwall '39 and is undergoing \$2.9 million in remodeling and renovations. Taylor's original prayer chapel, located in the southeast corner of Sickler Hall, is also being refurbished and will be named for the late Taylor President Clyde Meredith.

For decades, the small prayer chapel was a place where students came to pray and worship with friends. Special Assistant to the President Ron Sutherland '82 says the chapel's renovations include new lighting, ceiling, carpeting and pews, as well as painting and artwork. In naming it the Clyde Meredith Prayer Chapel, Taylor is recognizing the work and legacy of Meredith, who served as Taylor's president more than 60 years ago.

"The prayer chapel is a sacred space for many of our alumni. They remember special moments spent reflecting, reading Scripture, and wrestling in prayer with the Lord in that place," Sutherland said. "Our desire is to restore it to its original state for its original purpose. We believe both the Meredith Prayer

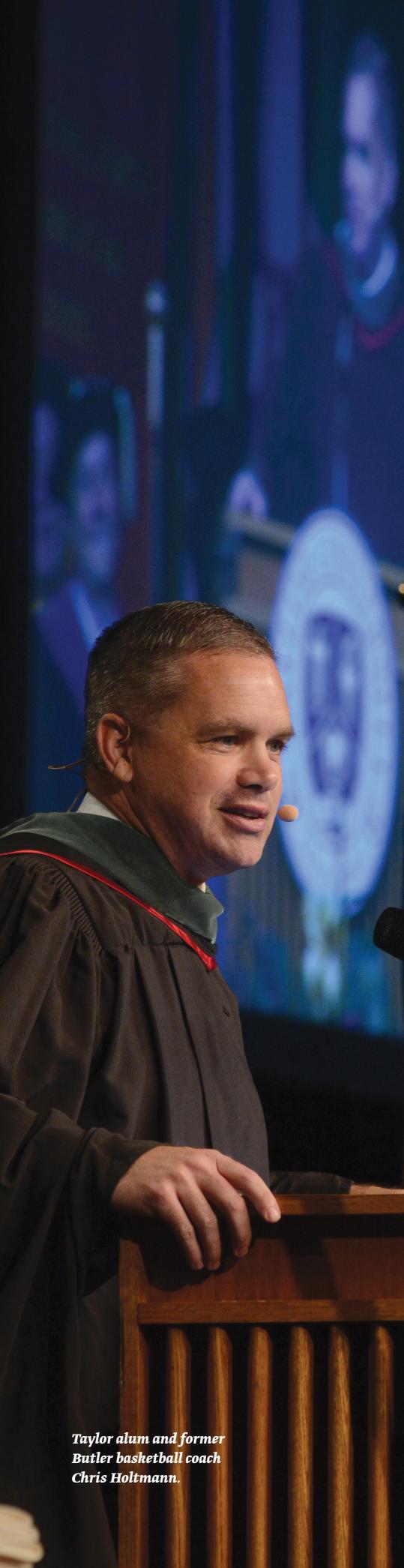
Chapel and the Memorial Prayer Chapel will provide our students, faculty, staff and alumni with special places set aside for the specific purpose of prayer and communion with the Lord."

Bergwall Hall was built for approximately \$1.9 million in 1989. Located on the west side of the Hodson Dining Commons, Bergwall was originally conceived as a conference center and featured private bathrooms, but its greatest use has been to house students. According to Sutherland, the \$2.9 million renovation will create new lounges, widened hallways, and centralized community style restroom and shower facilities on each of the building's four floors, as well as a kitchenette in the main lobby. The lounges on each floor will also be enclosed with steel and glass, providing a view of the campus and creating a more aesthetically-pleasing exterior.

He added that two rooms on each floor will continue to have their own toilet and shower facilities and that the work also includes a new exterior entrance and facade, new drywall, and carpeting. Additionally, a new residence space for the Assistant Hall Director was added.

"These renovations to Bergwall Hall will allow it to serve future generations of Taylor University students," Sutherland said. "We are pleased with the progress of the work and are confident that our students will also approve of the finished product when they return to campus for the start of the fall semester." **T**

GIVING BACK TO A PLACE THAT CHANGED OUR LIVES FOREVER



Taylor alum and former Butler basketball coach Chris Holtmann.

A moment after the last of the 426 graduates of Taylor University's Class of 2017 crossed the stage with their degree, a bolt of lightning struck just feet from the Kesler Student Activities Center (KSAC). The resulting thunderclap shook the building and the more than 3,000 people inside. Dr. Paul Lowell Haines '75, leading his first Commencement as Taylor's President, stepped to the microphone. "It looks like Someone else is also very excited about the Class of 2017," he said, drawing laughter from the crowd.

Beyond the degrees and stormy weather, the day's highlights included a commencement address from Chris Holtmann '94, the Head Men's Basketball Coach at Butler University (he has since left Butler for the head coaching job at The Ohio State University), and the conferral of an honorary doctorate to Taylor's beloved former First Lady Marylou (Napolitano '68) Habecker.

Holtmann was a member of Taylor University's 1993-94 men's basketball team that achieved the program's first number one national ranking. After he graduated, he served assistant coaching roles for several schools including Taylor before landing his first head coaching job at Gardner-Webb (NC), where he turned its program around. Holtmann who coached at Butler for the past three seasons, led the Bulldogs to the Sweet 16 and was named BIG EAST Coach of the Year for the 2016-2017 season.

"The years of service at Taylor were just a part of our giving back, in some small way, to a place that changed our lives forever."

He also received the John McLendon Award, presented annually by CollegeInsider.com to college basketball's coach of the year.

"Author David Brooks, in his recent article in the New York Times, wrote, 'Some institutions are thick, and some are thin. Some leave a mark on you, and some you pass through with scarcely a memory. A thick institution is not one that people use instrumentally to get a degree or earn a salary. A thick institution becomes part of a person's identity and engages the whole person: head, hands, heart, and soul,'" Holtmann told the graduates. "That was Taylor for me, and I'm sure it's been Taylor for you."

Habecker, whose service during the 11-year presidency of her husband Gene '68 ran the gamut from hosting thousands of students in their home and participating in

Bible studies, to mentoring opportunities and many other avenues of service, quoted theologian Frederick Buechner in her acceptance address.

"The place God calls you to is the place where your deep gladness and the world's deep hunger meet," she said.

"I am absolutely speechless, stunned, grateful, humbled, (and) filled with gratitude and will just pray that this will be something that can be used to honor God, Who deserves all of the honor and praise," Habecker said. "The years of service at Taylor were just a part of our giving back, in some small way, to a place that changed our lives forever. There was a sense of complete joy and contentment. For me, personally, I felt like all of the things I loved to do and that tickled my soul, got wrapped up into one huge gift package and was given to me straight from God Himself." 

PRE-NURSING, ORPHANS AND VULNERABLE CHILDREN MAJORS ADDED

Taylor University has added two major fields of study that will be available for the first time this fall. An Orphans and Vulnerable Children major will build on an existing minor, and a partnership with Indiana Wesleyan University will allow Taylor students to work toward a degree in nursing.

The Nursing 3+1 Program will allow Taylor students to study for three years on the Taylor campus in a pre-nursing concentration of a new Health Science major followed by a 14-month accelerated nursing education program in Indiana Wesleyan's School of Nursing. Taylor officials say the program enables students to earn two bachelor's degrees (one from Taylor; one from IWU) in slightly more than four years at a cost comparable to earning a single four-year degree. In the program, students will:

- Build a scientific foundation in biology, chemistry, and kinesiology,
- Engage in a liberal arts education that develops skills in critical thinking and problem solving,
- Develop understanding of the complexity of health-related issues,
- Graduate with a Bachelor of Science in Nursing, fully prepared for the National Council Licensure examination,
- Be able to travel to Uganda or Ecuador and gain allied health experience in a foreign culture,

- And work directly with Taylor's Health Professions Advisor for personal academic and career guidance.

Taylor Provost Dr. Jeff Moshier said pre-nursing students will actually be prepared for a variety of allied health professions. He added that students who wish to change from the pre-nursing program can apply earned credits toward a related degree and still finish in four years.

Orphans and Vulnerable Children director Dr. Scott Moeschberger '97 said the OVC major is unique to Taylor University. "It's a passion area - we are almost inverting the way people think about education," he said. "There is this issue of orphans and vulnerable children. Our students are passionate about this issue, and we are going to equip them

to address this issue in a way that will lead to employability and allow them to serve the kingdom."

"Both the Orphans and Vulnerable Children and the cooperative nursing program between Taylor University and Indiana Wesleyan University are very much in alignment with our mission statement here at Taylor," said Moshier. "They also align with the heart of our students' desire to bring restoration and wholeness to those who need it. Both programs are very people-oriented and live out the proclamation of Christ's message of advocacy and healing because they will be involved where people hurt and serve those with great need." 

#TAYLORU

ONE OF SOCIAL MEDIA'S BEST QUALITIES IS ITS ABILITY TO SHARE INSTANTANEOUS INFORMATION WITH FRIENDS, FAMILIES, AND LOVED ONES VIA TWITTER, FACEBOOK, INSTAGRAM OR VARIOUS OTHER SOCIAL MEDIA. HERE ARE A FEW TWEETS AND INSTAGRAM PHOTOS THAT WE HAVE ENJOYED DURING THE PAST MONTHS.



@ABBYVANAARTSEN

@jay_dubbzzz I've been graduated for 24 hours and all I want to do is go back to Taylor. The real world is rough. :/ #TaylorU

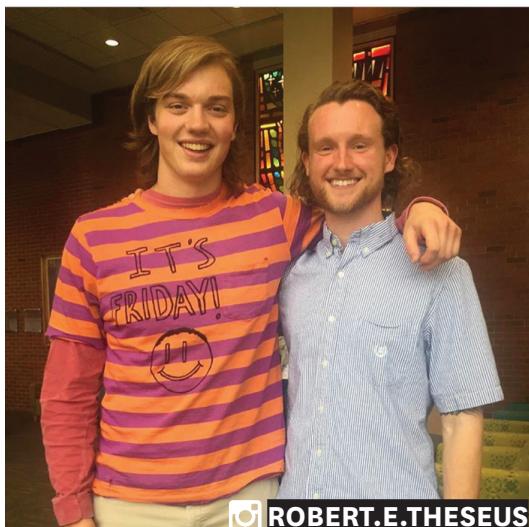
@GCSalter "I try to build my career around skills that will help in the zombie apocalypse" – my roommate, during a late night conversation. #TaylorU

@peytonnill If you see a crazy girl wandering campus, talking to herself & hyperventilating, pay no heed. I'm just in the throes of Dead Week. #TaylorU

@EmRoseL14 "Between the two of us, we've gotta have 50 cents." This conversation is a classic college situation. #TaylorU

@MrBrown_CanMoo My grandparents were late to class and their phones went off during the lecture...they are true college students. #TaylorU

@JonnyRTaylor I have never had Dr. Heth in class, but mentioning him in a tweet may get me in The Echo. #TaylorU



@ROBERT.E.THESEUS



@AL.DAGENS



@BMCKEN426

@evanmiya Dr. Cramer was just spotted in a grocery store and said "I'm about to buy junk food. That's not flourishing," before walking away. #TaylorU



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FACULTY AWARDS RECOGNIZE EXCELLENCE, ENGAGEMENT, CREATIVITY, AND IMPACT

Drs. Conor Angell '06, Scott Moeschberger '97, and Don Taylor were recognized for excellence in the classroom, impact in their respective fields, and for the respect they have received from their colleagues.



DR. CONOR ANGELL '06
ASSISTANT PROFESSOR OF MUSIC
DR. JOE BURNWORTH TEACHING AWARD

Dr. Conor Angell '06 is the recipient of the 2016-2017 Dr. Joe Burnworth Teaching Award. The Burnworth Award, named for the late Professor of Education Dr. Joe Burnworth, recognizes distinctive faculty in their first five years of teaching at Taylor who exhibit great promise and have made noteworthy contributions to the academic and community life of the institution. Burnworth Award recipients also exhibit excellence in the classroom, participate in faculty development activities, and are recognized as competent, creative, and engaging teachers.

Angell, who joined the Taylor University faculty in 2013, was recognized for his commitment to excellence, participation in numerous professional development activities, his impact on students, and for consistently high student evaluations of his courses.



DR. SCOTT MOESCHBERGER '97
PROFESSOR OF PSYCHOLOGY
TAYLOR UNIVERSITY TEACHING EXCELLENCE AND CAMPUS LEADERSHIP AWARD

Dr. Scott Moeschberger '97 is the recipient of the 2016-2017 Taylor University Teaching Excellence and Campus Leadership Award. The award recognizes a teaching faculty member who has made a distinct difference in the teaching climate at Taylor in such areas as model classroom teaching, campus leadership, pioneering teaching methodology, creative course development, and/or instructional support.

Moeschberger was recognized for engaging work in the classroom and numerous acts of service including the development of the Honors Guild and the Orphans and Vulnerable Children program. He has also played a central role in the development and teaching of the Foundations of the Christian Liberal Arts course.



DR. DONALD TAYLOR
PROFESSOR OF KINESIOLOGY
DISTINGUISHED PROFESSOR AWARD PRESENTED BY THE ALUMNI COUNCIL

Dr. Donald Taylor is the 2016-2017 Distinguished Professor. The award, presented by Taylor University's Alumni Council, annually recognizes a faculty member who has served at least 10 years, exhibits excellence and expertise in one's respective field, has a positive impact on students, possesses the respect of faculty colleagues, and has achieved visibility beyond the campus community.

Since arriving on campus, Taylor oversaw significant curriculum changes in the Physical Education and Human Performance Department, which led to the creation of the Exercise Science and Sport Management majors. He also contributed to the design of the Kesler Student Activities Center (KSAC).

For the past 22 seasons, Taylor has served as Taylor University's men's tennis coach. He is a four-time men's tennis Coach of the Year for the Crossroads League and the NAIA Region VIII Men's Tennis Coach of the Year in 2008.



Sophomore Public Relations major Plensem-Tay Sakeuh earned NAIA All-American and All-Crossroads League honors during an outstanding sophomore season, finishing 10th nationally in the long jump, and 33rd nationally in the 100-meter hurdles. Sakeuh also set Taylor school records in the 60-meter hurdles and long jump.

MEN'S, WOMEN'S LACROSSE TO BECOME TAYLOR'S 19TH, 20TH INTERCOLLEGIATE SPORTS

TAYLOR LACROSSE, WHICH HAS FIELDED MEN'S AND WOMEN'S CLUB TEAMS FOR MORE THAN 10 YEARS, WILL BECOME THE 19TH AND 20TH INTERCOLLEGIATE SPORTS AT TAYLOR UNIVERSITY.

The men's lacrosse program will continue as a club sport until it begins playing official varsity contests during the spring of 2019 and the women's lacrosse team will begin playing competitively the following season in 2020.

"Taylor Lacrosse has a strong history at the club level and we are excited to take the next step to welcome them into our intercollegiate athletics department," said Athletics Director Kyle Gould '02. "Everything will be in place for them to recruit quality student-athletes who are committed to attending Taylor University."

"We are excited about bringing men's and women's lacrosse from a club sport level to a varsity sport," stated Vice President for Student Development Skip Trudeau. "As clubs they have been a great addition to our campus and taking them to the varsity level is the next logical step."

The program took its first steps in May when it hired Jared Nies to coach the men's lacrosse team. Nies comes to Taylor after serving in the same role over the past two years at Judson University in Illinois. Nies began his coaching career as a graduate assistant on staff at NCAA Division III power Messiah

College after completing a four-year career with the Falcons.

"We are very excited to welcome Jared Nies as our first-ever men's lacrosse coach," said Gould. "We think that we are uniquely positioned to have a successful lacrosse program and Jared's strong knowledge of the game, along with his passion for Christian higher education, make him the ideal candidate for us. We look forward to him joining our staff ...and building this program from the ground up."

"I feel deeply blessed to be the first coach of Taylor University

lacrosse," stated Nies. "I look forward to pursuing excellence for Christ with the first cohort of Trojans."

Taylor currently offers 18 varsity athletics programs, with women's golf being the most recently added sport in the 2012-2013 season. In all four years since the addition of women's golf, each of Taylor's 18 teams posted a team grade-point average of 3.0 or higher, helping Taylor University rank among the NAIA's elite with 18 scholar-teams each year.

Taylor will seek associate membership for its lacrosse programs an NAIA-affiliated league. 

FLOURISHING TO THE GLORY OF GOD

DR. STEPHEN SNYDER

Some of the greatest joys of my career as an educator have come, not when awards or accolades might have come my way, but rather when I see my students growing in grace and knowledge.

It is a blessing to see our students, as their academic journeys stretch and challenge them, rewarded with the excitement of discovery and the joy of accomplishment. These joys are shared by me and my faculty colleagues, who work faithfully to help shape the lives and careers of these young men and women.

One of the most distinct attributes of our educational program is preparing our students for lifelong learning - or, as it has otherwise been stated, "learning how to learn." We do not settle for merely

surviving academic rigors, creating economic advantage, or the pursuit of lifetime happiness, but instead we strive together to take hold of what Jesus said He came to give His followers - abundant life (John 10:10). Thus, my contention is that as Christian educators, the big picture of our teaching should focus on providing content and skills and facilitating dispositions that results in flourishing.

Flourishing is the inner state of being that gives thanks for God's grace, and connects God to all the events we encounter. Flourishing involves an intimate relationship with God, and living with integrity concerning the values of our faith. As a result we can intentionally focus on the positive, engage completely in activities, develop connecting relationships, see meaning in our activities, and achieve at a high level.

In a practical sense, the process and reality of flourishing can be illustrated using the acronym **PERMA GRIP:**

P - POSITIVE FOCUS
 E - ENGAGEMENT
 R - RELATIONSHIP (WITH OTHERS)
 M - MEANING/MISSION
 A - ACHIEVEMENT

G - GRACE
 R - RELATIONSHIP (WITH GOD)
 I - INTEGRITY
 P - PRACTICING THE PRESENCE OF GOD

Positive Focus

Instead of dwelling on or ignoring life's inevitable pain and trials, we choose instead to meditate on those things that are true, excellent and lovely (Phil. 4:8). Christian college instruction should communicate the excellent things about God's general and specific revelation so students develop the mental discipline of appropriately directing their thoughts (Ps. 8). Savoring truth and grace through meditation and reflection is

a trained process that transcends merely the experiencing of new events (Ps. 1:2-3; Jos. 1:8).

Engagement

Life should be lived by engaging in the present with eternity in mind. When we teach students to fully concentrate and engage in the future, they flourish now, and develop a mental discipline for doing so in the future. When we live in the past or what we wish for in the future, or allow ourselves to be engulfed in the cyber world of social media and entertainment, we abandon or defer genuine living.

Relationship

The Scriptures encourage us to be relationship focused, not task focused (Luke 10:38-42). They exhort us to develop positive, connecting relationships with others marked by kindness and appreciation through words of thanks and honor (Gal. 5:22; Col. 3:12-17; Rom. 12:10). Scriptural metaphors for these connecting relationships, such as a body, help us to understand this need experientially (I Cor. 12:12-31).

Christian education seeks to connect students with God in an intimate way through mentoring relationships, spiritual disciplines, knowledge that connects to the meaning God has given to it, and how to live effectively in learning communities.

Meaning

When meaning is lost in our lives, we die psychologically and physically. The Scriptures encourage us to find meaning in even the simple acts of life, be they eating (1 Cor. 10:31) or viewing creation (Matt. 6:26-34). We are illuminated by the Holy Spirit to find meaning when experiencing pain (Rom. 5:3-5) or even the death of loved ones (I Thess. 4:13, 18). My faculty colleagues and I strive to help students recognize meaning behind the events they experience in every discipline they study to develop their worldview and recognize meaning from all of life.

Achievement

God's grace poured into our lives produces fruit. When we see our opportunities to positively impact others as grace windows in time, we enjoy God in the process of accomplishing kingdom needs. As we perceive God's grace, we sow continually into others through grace without immediate reward (Eccles. 11:6).

Grace

Flourishing comes from recognizing grace in both history and salvation. Rather than simply evaluating content memorization, assignments given by my faculty colleagues and me must apply course

knowledge for the benefit of our students and those with whom they interact. Our goal is that our students will worship God through studying, caring for their body, and in those things on which they meditate.

Relationship

Unique from other faiths, Christianity stresses God's desire for an intimate relationship with us. Jehovah makes a covenant of deep relationship with the Jewish people and is inherited by the church (Rom. 11:17; Gal. 3:29). He desires to love us like a groom loves His bride (Hosea 2:16-20; Eph. 5:22-33). And as His bride, we are to love Him with our heart, soul, and mind (Deut. 6:4-6; Matt. 22:37-38). God made it possible to enjoy His presence with us (Ps. 139:5-12), and in us (1 Cor. 3:16), through an intimate friendship (John 15:14-16). In a practical sense, personally owned intrinsic faith has been shown empirically through controlled investigations to result in lower anxiety, lower depression rates, and less alcoholism. It also results in less divorce, more quality marriages, and children that are healthier - mentally and physically

- than those without this kind of faith. Christian education seeks to connect students with God in an intimate way through mentoring relationships, spiritual disciplines, knowledge that connects to the meaning God has given to it, and how to live effectively in learning communities.

Integrity of Faith Values

God promises flourishing to the righteous (Ps. 92:12-14). Righteousness is not perfection, but a progressive, faithful walking with God, or as Eugene Peterson describes it, a long obedience in the same direction. A goal of Christian education is character development (Holmes, 1991) - the etching of values in a person's identity and core being. The habits of mind, Christian worldview perspective and truth-seeking, inquisitive, and cognitively mature dispositions create the journey of integrity resulting in flourishing, not only during a student's college years, but for the rest of his or her life.

Practicing the Presence of God

God is present wherever we go (Ps. 139:7-10). His new covenant sends the Holy Spirit to abide in us so God can commune with us. Yet few choose to live like Enoch, in conscious awareness of God moment by moment (Gen. 5:21-24). As Christian educators, we strive to show our students how God connects to all knowledge, and how He empowers, restores, illuminates, ministers, and heals. Prayer allows us to respond to His intimate presence through praise, thanks, questioning, repentance, journaling, and pouring out our concerns as we consistently recognize our weaknesses.

May we each walk faithfully with our Lord and with humankind, that God would be glorified and we would continue to grow in His image.

Dr. Stephen Snyder is a Professor of Psychology at Taylor University. 



WELL DONE

Transformative teaching and service, care for those whom God brought into their lives, and faithful availability for the Kingdom of God. These men and women collectively served Taylor University for 234 years. Their impact and legacy are eternal.





ROGER JENKINSON '60 52 YEARS

During his 52 years of service to Taylor University, Professor of Geography Dr. Roger Jenkinson '60 has taught hundreds of classes in history and geography, served on numerous advisory, policy and search committees, played an integral role in the launch of a statewide network of geography educators, and served under eight presidents. Perhaps most significant, his tenure is the longest in Taylor University's history – two years longer than that of the late Dr. Burt Ayres.

Jenkinson was a teacher in public schools when Taylor's new President Dr. Milo A. Rediger '39 invited him to join Taylor's faculty in 1965. Jenkinson's wife Jan (Judd '62) also hosted new faculty, organized special events, hosted Board of Trustees meetings, and supported Taylor's Music Department. "Milo had us doing everything," Roger said with a laugh.

Jenkinson also served the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA) for a number of years in different roles (including a term as president), and a delegate to the United States Olympic Committee. In 1996, he was honored by Taylor's alumni as Distinguished Professor.

Jenkinson said that while he wasn't necessarily outspoken about his faith, it played a critical role in his life. "I'm not one to preach. I never spoke in chapel. I didn't feel like I had anything to impart," he said. "I always felt like I needed to try to do my best, not only because it was my job, but because I was a Christian. With Jan and I both, our testimony is our work." (JG)



MARY MUCHIRI 16 YEARS

Initially invited to guest teach a course at Taylor University, Associate Professor of English Dr. Mary Muchiri didn't plan to stay beyond one semester. But then she was asked to fill a faculty vacancy – a position which she was later invited to apply for herself.

"My coming [to Taylor] changed all my plans for God's plans, which I had no idea about when I accepted the invitation," she said. "I had never thought I would work in another country."

In 16 years of service, Muchiri has enjoyed a variety of opportunities from participating in writing conferences across the country to teaching courses like Business and Technical Writing, Language and Culture, and Expository Writing, to writing four books.

One of her favorite courses has been World Literature because it gives her the space to choose pieces that reflect cultures all over the world, not just life in the United States. She also loves helping students navigate the big questions asked in literature.

"I usually choose texts from all parts of the world," she said. "This gives me and the students the opportunity to engage in many interesting topics that try to answer the three basic questions all humans ask: Where did I come from? What am I doing here? What will happen to me after I die?"(BM)



FAYE CHECHOWICH '74

28 YEARS

Dean of Faculty Development and Professor of Christian Ministries Dr. Faye Chechowich '74 had just finished her master's degree at Trinity Evangelical Divinity School when she joined the Taylor faculty. Twenty-eight years later, she is a respected and beloved friend and mentor to many in the Taylor community.

"I think I have had a sense since I came to Taylor and began to teach that this is what God made me to do and that everything in my life was preparation for this role," she said, as she blinked back tears.

During her service at Taylor, Chechowich has introduced a number of new events and elements to the Christian Ministries program, including biannual department retreats, a senior banquet, and an application process for the major.

She has also played a major role in study abroad trips to destinations that included Singapore, Turkey, Ecuador, and Israel. Having traveled to 32 countries during her tenure, one of Chechowich's great joys is traveling with students.

"What has made my work at Taylor so fulfilling and rewarding is the fact that I work with amazing women and men," she said. "I am better at what I do because of the people I work with." (BE)



LEE ERICKSON

38 YEARS

When Professor of Economics Dr. Lee Erickson became a Christian, he was 30 years old. As a result, his whole outlook on life changed dramatically, including his perspective on economics. Originally interested in economics because of its logical nature, Erickson's curiosity expanded to the issue of market failures, which he described as any time the market does not produce ideal economic results for the whole of society.

"From a Christian perspective, [market failures] could be understood as stemming from selfishness," Erickson said. "But the thing that distinguishes Christians from non-Christians, or what ought to, is that Christians are, or should be, trying not to be so selfish, whereas the world sees no reason to try."

While he authored numerous articles on environmental and natural resource economics and the integration of faith and learning in economics, Erickson's most significant scholarship was in economics education. His economics education reforms were recognized by the Teaching Innovations Program of the Committee on Economic Education of the American Economic Association.

Erickson and his wife Patty are joining Operation Mobilization in Ireland to help with accounting and finance. (BK)



DON TAYLOR

26 YEARS

During his tenure at Taylor University, Professor of Kinesiology Dr. Donald Taylor played a central role in the creation of the Exercise Science and Sport Management majors and contributed to the design of Kesler Student Activities Center.

Coming to Indiana from Pennsylvania, where he left behind friends and a job at his alma mater, Lock Haven University, was a step of faith, but Taylor said he has been constantly reminded of God's faithfulness.

For the past 22 seasons, Taylor has also served as Taylor University's men's tennis coach. He is a four-time Crossroads League Coach of the Year, and was named the NAIA Region VIII Men's Tennis Coach of the Year in 2008. Additionally, Taylor was named the Distinguished Professor for 2017 by the Alumni Council of Taylor University.

While Taylor is retiring, he's not really leaving the Taylor community. He will continue as men's tennis coach and plans to teach as an adjunct. (BM)



KEN BOYD

6 YEARS

Prior to his arrival at Taylor, University Instructional Designer Dr. Kenneth Boyd served as Dean of Information Services at Asbury Theological Seminary. After joining the Taylor faculty, he worked in Fort Wayne where he served Taylor University Online. After arriving in Upland, Boyd helped launch the Technology and Learning Center in Zondervan Library, and guided faculty to better design their courses for improved quality of instruction.

Boyd plans to continue working with the United Methodist Church's License to Preach program and adjunct teach for Asbury.

"I want to spend the rest of the time I have trying to do exactly what God wants me to do," he said. He continually asks in prayer, "What do you want me to do? Where do you want me to work? Where do you want me to serve?" (BE)



MIKE SAUNIER

9 YEARS

Assistant Professor of Communication Mike Saunier has always linked art and design to photography and writing. After working at The Christian and Missionary Alliance in Colorado Springs, he sensed a call to change the direction of his career.

During his service at Taylor, Saunier has enjoyed mentoring students and helping them find a career path. He's also appreciated the active learning environment.

"I think I've learned as much, or maybe more, than students have learned," Saunier said. "In the field I'm in, it seems like stuff's always changing, there's always a new way of doing things – new technology and new software."

Saunier said he looks forward to the freedom that retirement will bring. In addition to creative pursuits, travel, family time, and volunteering, he also wants to devote more time to cycling throughout Indiana and beyond. (BK)



RON BENBOW

28 YEARS

Professor of Mathematics Dr. Ronald Benbow had already established himself as a successful mathematics teacher in middle and high school settings when he was invited to apply to a one-year faculty position at Taylor. After 28 years of service, Benbow said he has been transformed and shaped by the experience.

Beyond his classroom teaching, Benbow says his life has been impacted by travels to locations that include Haiti, Guatemala, Ecuador, and Liberia, where he has taught, mentored and learned. “(The trips) weren’t all directly linked to Taylor, but working at Taylor has enabled those to happen,” he said.

In 2007 Benbow traveled to Liberia, the original home of legendary Taylor student Samuel Morris. While there, he shared the Morris story with his hosts, many of whom had never heard of him, and how Morris’ life changed the lives of everyone with whom he came in contact.

In retirement, Benbow says he may teach online in Taylor’s Transition to Teaching program, and he looks forward to a more flexible schedule with more traveling and mission trips. Since his wife retired last year, the couple plans to celebrate their dual retirements by going on a cruise to Alaska. (BK)



NELSON REDIGER '66

31 YEARS

It could be said that Nelson Rediger '66 was born to do the job he has done for Taylor University since 1986. One of Taylor’s most successful fundraisers ever, Rediger has played a central role in raising as much as \$15 million over the past decade that was used for scholarships, buildings, and special projects.

Rediger, the son of the late Taylor Dean and President Milo A. Rediger '39, said the money is only one measure of the success he has enjoyed. The greater measure, he said, is in the relationships that have been formed and lives that have been transformed.

“I came here as an Associate Vice President, but what does that AVP stand for?” he asked. “For me, it was ‘Always Visiting People.’”

And so, Rediger visited people. Lots and lots of people. Armed with an infectious laugh and his trademark exclamation, “Unbelievable!” any given day would see him driving to a home in Tampa, Fla., San Antonio, Texas, or Phoenix, Ariz. While he could make an appointment, Rediger admitted he was more likely to see the people if he just rang their doorbell.

“You can write 100 letters,” he said, “but until you sit down, eye to eye, and start getting to know these people and hearing their stories, I don’t know if we can truly understand the depth of people’s feelings.”

Rediger said each visit, financial gift, prayer request, and sometimes a student referral to Taylor gave evidence of God’s blessings.

“The Lord is good. Praise be to God. What else can you say?” Rediger said. “We are just servants, and He uses us in all of our inadequacies. It passes through us to benefit how many others?” (JG)

REFINED BY FIRE

THE STORY OF A 21ST CENTURY MIRACLE

By James R. Garringer H'15



In all this you greatly rejoice, though now for a little while you may have had to suffer grief in all kinds of trials. These have come so that the proven genuineness of your faith – of greater worth than gold, which perishes even though refined by fire – may result in praise, glory and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed.

1 PETER 1:6-7

He did not hear the gun discharge. One moment, he was watching television, and the next, he was on his back, unable to move, speak, or hear anything but a loud ringing in his ears. Sometimes he still hears that ringing.

It happened on a Saturday morning, the first day of spring break in 2016, just days after his 21st birthday. Conner Faulkner '18 and two of his brothers were at the family's home on Morse Reservoir near Indianapolis, Ind. The three were cleaning their firearms in anticipation of a trip to an area gun show when the gun being cleaned by one of his brothers accidentally discharged, striking Conner in the face. In the confusing moments that followed, he realized he must have been shot, but he did not know where. He just knew he couldn't move. In that moment, he thought of his parents and wondered how they might cope if he died. As his hearing started to return, Conner could hear his brothers' frantic shouts and the sound of sirens. He remembers the arrival of EMTs whose quick response probably saved his life.

A mile away in the small town of Cicero, Conner's sister Ciara '18 was working in the family's barbecue restaurant. Even though four months separated their births - Ciara was adopted from a Russian orphanage by the Faulkners - the siblings grew up together and have always considered themselves twins.

The restaurant was busy that morning. When her phone rang and she heard her mother's voice, Ciara told her that she didn't have time to talk. But something about the way the call ended disturbed her. Her mother had never ended a conversation without saying, "I love you," until now. Ciara called her back and her father answered. "There's been an accident," he said. "Conner was shot in the head, and that's all we know."

At the hospital, the family learned the extent of Conner's injuries. The bullet had entered his right cheek, broken his jaw, traveled through his neck, chipped his C1 and C2 vertebrae, and lodged just an eighth of a centimeter from his spinal cord. While the bullet had taken the least destructive path, it still had damaged nerves in his face and neck leaving him partially paralyzed. He was not going to die, but there was much uncertainty about how complete his recovery would be.

"That is where I questioned God. I thought, 'Why him? Why my best friend? We've done life together.'" Ciara remembered. "I remember sitting in the waiting room, and there were 25 people in there. I couldn't cry. It was really frustrating. I was angry. I was sad."

With his broken jaw wired shut, Conner's weight plummeted nearly 50 pounds in the coming weeks. But the challenges he faced were not merely physical. A member of Taylor's football team and an aspiring bodybuilder, Conner had just reached new milestones in his weightlifting before the accident. Plus, his body weight - 238 pounds - had been just two pounds away from his bodybuilding hero, Arnold Schwarzenegger. Now, perhaps the bodybuilding, football, and maybe even more were gone. He needed help combing his hair or brushing his teeth. Taking a shower, something that Conner had always loved, became excruciating because of the damaged nerves.



"When I would hear Conner cry at night and say, 'Why me? Why did this happen? Why now? Do you think anything good will ever happen again or am I just going to be stuck here?' I would always remind him of (the Old Testament story of) Job," said Ciara. "Job was stripped of everything, and God said to him it wasn't because of anything he did. He had nothing and still trusted in the Lord. I saw Conner at that place where he couldn't eat, he couldn't move, he couldn't speak, he was losing his body, and I knew how important that was to him. It was his identity in a way."

It had been the previous January when Conner had taken a Lighthouse trip to Southeast Asia and encountered children who lived in Third World poverty. At the time, he felt his comparatively privileged upbringing and life were barriers to his being able to enter into their stories. If only he had a story, he had shared with family members. One of them would later remark, "Conner got his story."

As the pace of his recovery began to accelerate, Conner increasingly regained the ability to do many of

those seemingly mundane tasks that are so easily taken for granted. After more than five weeks in the hospital, Conner went home to continue his recovery. In the past year, he has gone from slow, halting steps to being able to run and even lift weights. His face, once drawn and frozen from his injuries, can once again beam a smile. Conner says he hopes to rejoin the football team this fall, but he is staying focused on his recovery and life after football.

"Everybody will say that God won't give you a challenge that He knows you can't handle, and the fact that He gave me this challenge I see as a huge compliment from God. I see that now a lot more than I did then," Conner said. "I am thankful that He chose me to go through the trial and to be a witness to my friends here at school or even when I speak at chapel. Maybe He thought Taylor needed somebody with that kind of a story to share. I'm still working on seeing every blessing that God sent to me. I'm still working through all that God wants me to get out of this situation."



During his recovery, Conner Faulkner's sister Ciara took photos and posted frequent prayer requests and updates.



Ciara, who shared numerous videos, photos and progress reports on social media during Conner's recovery, said she is grateful for her brother's survival and healing, and for God's work in their lives. "I had prayed the Lord would renew Conner's heart and just show him that football wasn't the only thing in his life, because he was so invested in that. I knew there was going to be life after football, and would he know himself after football?" Ciara said. "God has basically performed a 21st century miracle on Conner for His glory. Conner endured this journey that no one could have imagined, and he did it with such grace." **T**



the **MISSION**

By Meredith Sell '14

“I don’t want to die homeless. I don’t want to die homeless.” Racked with pain and facing death, the man began to weep as he waited for EMTs to arrive at the Springs Rescue Mission.



Michael Snider (right), who previously filled a counseling role, now directs the mission's homeless shelter outreach.

For the staff at Springs Rescue Mission in Colorado Springs, Colorado, the longing for home is a familiar one. It's one they come face-to-face with every day as they serve the Springs' homeless population, which has steadily grown since a significant drop in 2013, according to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's annual Point-in-Time survey.

Three Taylor alumni - Joel Siebersma '99, Stu Davis '01, and Michael Snider '75 - serve at the Mission in different branches of the organization. Siebersma, who has worked there almost nine years, runs the Mission's signature New Life Program, a year-long residential rehabilitation program for men

coming out of addiction and rebuilding their lives. Davis' role is outward-facing: he works to build bridges between the Mission, the city of Colorado Springs, and the local church to gain support - whether it's monetary or volunteer help - for the Mission's various programs. Snider, who previously worked as a counselor in the New Life Program, directs the Mission's homeless shelter operation.

Since its origin in 1996, the Mission has served Colorado Springs primarily by providing addiction counseling and meals. It wasn't until 2013 that the Mission opened its first winter shelter, which Davis described as, "a 35-cot corner of a warehouse designed to just keep people alive." Since then, the Mission has expanded to 169 beds for men and 60 for women in new, low-barrier shelters that opened last November. Summer 2017 is the first that the Mission has a shelter open all summer long.



From left: Joel Siebersma, Michael Snider, and Stu Davis each took a different path to the Springs Rescue Mission.

“It’s not just us on staff at the Mission. It’s the churches coming together. It’s individuals whose hearts are in this ... It has to be everybody working together, following what Christ said about taking care of the homeless, the widows, and the orphans.”

Siebersma had not intended to work with those struggling with addictions. His plan was to work with adult and juvenile sex offenders, but the doors kept closing and, after an impromptu interview with the Mission's executive team, he got a job offer.

“I really went into (the job) with an attitude of a learner, even to those I was supposed to be over and helping,” Siebersma said. “They’re the ones that taught me what it actually looks like to be living day in and day out, not only with addiction, but with mental illness and with poverty and with struggles with the criminal justice system.”

The New Life Program has adopted a more relational approach in how it works with participants. “Addiction is ... a surface issue,” he explained. “It covers over deeper wounds, deeper dysfunctional life habits and patterns, and that’s where we need to work if we want lasting sobriety.”

Work with addicts carries its own unique challenges. In one instance, Siebersma trusted a new resident to travel unaccompanied to an appointment. He later had to face that resident’s parents after the young man detoured to a liquor store, got drunk, and was kicked out of the program.

“I had to look them in the eye and say, ‘You know what, I screwed up,’ Siebersma confessed. “I shouldn’t have let him go. I’m sorry. I let him and you down.”

Davis started working at the Mission in 2014, after leaving a job in full-time ministry at Woodman Valley Chapel where he and his family still attend.

“I just felt very, very clearly – as clearly as God has ever spoken to me – that it was my time to go,” he said of leaving Woodman. “This is what I had been planning on spending my life doing, vocational pastoral ministry ... but God said, ‘It’s time to go.’”

He spent a few months working in manual labor jobs, another year and a half working as a recruiter for churches and nonprofits, and then through a conversation with the Mission’s president, he began his role as the Mission’s Community Relations Director.

“I was really compelled by the vision of the rescue mission, what they were trying to accomplish,” Davis said.

In a polarized city with an overwhelming presence of Christian organizations focused on the needs of other places, the Mission stood out – and continues to do so as it mobilizes the local church to meet local needs. “It’s creating an openness amongst the community to saying, ‘Okay. Maybe the church isn’t quite as bad as everybody thinks it is,’ Davis said.

One woman spends most of her days on the Mission’s campus, bundled in layers of clothing, coats, and hats, whether it is summer or winter. She didn’t come into the shelter at first. She wouldn’t go inside to take a shower.

“For a long time, I’d say ‘hi’ to her and she didn’t even acknowledge me,” Snider said. “Now, she’ll say ‘hi’ and even talk a little bit when I see her on campus, and I think that’s a direct result of her feeling comfortable enough to go into the shelter and people being nice to her when she’s in the shelter.”

Snider said the people can come to the Mission if they’re intoxicated and high as long as they follow the rules.

“They can get very belligerent,” he said. “We’ve had guys that we’ve ... almost half carried them to their beds, because they’re so drunk and they just pretty much passed out on their beds.” He said some suffer from untreated mental illness. Others have died from overdose.

“I wouldn’t be honest if I said it wasn’t stressful,” Snider said, adding that Jesus’s command to serve one another from Mark 10:42-45 never promised the service would be easy.

“We’re all extraordinarily similar,” Davis said. “When a guy drives onto our campus in his \$120,000 Mercedes and he gets out and he feels a little sheepish ... driving a car this nice in front of a whole bunch of people who don’t have anything, I just say, ‘Listen. This whole place works because people who drive your kind of vehicle get it and they’re willing to help.’”

“It’s a collaborative effort,” Snider said. “It’s not just us on staff at the Mission. It’s the churches coming together. It’s individuals whose hearts are in this ... It has to be everybody working together, following what Christ said about taking care of the homeless, the widows, and the orphans.”

“It’s God’s job to change people, not mine,” Siebersma said. “So I’m doing my best to be obedient and to do what He’s asking me to do.” 



► Recording artists Josh Garrels (left) and John Mark McMillan (right) end their concert on the Taylor campus. It marked a return to the Taylor campus for Garrels, who played for coffee houses at Taylor when he was a student at neighboring Ball State University.



ALUMNI NOTES

1968

01 Susan Huslage
climbed Mt. Kilimanjaro in
celebration of 70 years of
God's faithfulness.



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1960

02 **George Kloehck** and his wife Margaret have traveled to 35 countries as members of teams sponsored by the United Methodist Volunteers in Mission. George served as a United Methodist pastor in Middlebury, Vt., for 46 years prior to his retirement in 2009. The couple says faithfulness to our Lord Jesus Christ continues to move them to work for peace and justice in society and in the church.

1961

James David Bormann and wife Lidia Parra Sanchez retired from ministry as independent evangelical missionaries in Trieste, Italy. They live in Trieste where their son and one of their daughters also reside. They have two other children live in Torino and Pisa, Italy, and a daughter who lives in Dublin, Ireland.

1962

03 **Janet (Mendenhall) Doctor** had the joy of spending most of the month of January at Body and Soul in Belize with Taylor students. The trip consisted of studying elementary and secondary teaching and working in the local schools under the direction of **Dr. Carol (Meier '88) Sisson**. Jan enjoyed getting back in touch with students and sharing stories of old times.

1964

William Madison is a published author of four books, with his most recent being *Creation 101*.

1967

04 **John R. Ebright** achieved mastership in the American College of Physicians, the national organization of internists. Election to mastership recognizes outstanding and extraordinary career accomplishments including a notable contribution to medicine. This includes teaching, outstanding work in clinical medicine (research or practice), contributions to preventive medicine, improvements in the delivery of health care, and contributions to medical literature. Since retiring from the School of Medicine about two years ago, John is now medical director for Covenant Community Care's Moross location in Detroit, Mich. Covenant is a faith-based, federally-qualified health care program with five clinics reaching out to underserved and underinsured people of Detroit. John continues to serve the School of Medicine, giving lectures to second-year medical students in Microbiology and Pathophysiology, and is attending physician at Detroit Receiving Hospital with Infectious Diseases fellows, medicine residents and Wayne State University medical students.

1968

Darrell Mayne has retired from The Ohio State University, concluding a 45-year career in public education. He served in OSU's Student-Athlete Support Services Office as a Football Academic Specialist, where he mentored and tutored incoming freshman football players, a job he first began under the tenure of former Ohio State football coach Jim Tressel. Prior to joining Ohio State, he was a head football coach and mathematics teacher at Upper Arlington High

School near Columbus, Ohio. While at Upper Arlington, Darrell coached two Final-Four teams, both of which were nationally ranked, one of which won the 2000 Division I State Championship. During his high school coaching career, Darrell was named Nike Ohio Coach of the Year and American Football Monthly Magazine USA East Region Coach of the Year. Darrell and his wife, **Leslie (McGinty)**, who retired from a career in music education in 2012, live in Hilliard, Ohio. They have two daughters and two grandchildren.

Ed Kershner is retiring after an outstanding 48-year high school basketball coaching career during which his teams from Kissimmee Osceola, and Ovideo High School (both in Florida) won 901 games and two state championships. He is a member of several Halls of Fame. His last four Ovideo teams won district titles.

1969

05 **Dan and Vicki (Duke) Alley, Bob and Coleen (Myers '70) Midwood, and Steve and Diane (Lundquist) Oldham** volunteered at the Walt Disney Marathon in Orlando, Fla. They say the temperature for the 26.2 mile event was an un-Florida-like 36 degrees.

06 **Randy and Bari (McCracken '72) Behnken** met **Steve and Diane (Lundquist) Oldham** for dinner in Ft. Myers, Fla.

**SEE WHAT'S GOING
ON IN THE LIVES OF
TAYLOR ALUMNI**



1970

07 **Mike Erdmann** met **Dan** and **Vicki (Duke) Alley** ('69) on January 12, 2017, for lunch in Lakeland, Fla., while Mike was visiting from Wisconsin.

1974

Madonna (Jervis) Wise, the author of seven books and an accomplished historian, retired after 40 years as an educator. Madonna served as a school principal, district administrator and a school counselor.

Pamela (Hoyt) Kammel retired from teaching in 2016. She lives in Michigan with her husband Refaat. The couple will celebrate 42 years of marriage in August.

1977

08 **Brad Martin** and his wife Sherry adopted 10-month-old Caleb on March 7, 2017. He has lived with the Martins since he was six-weeks-old. He is adored by his big sister Leah, and loved by four adult siblings.

Jane Stoller-Schoff is a psychotherapist in private practice, Missionary Care Consultant for OMF International, and an adjunct faculty member at Wheaton College. Jane and her husband John reside in the greater Chicago area.

1980

Kim (Archer) Dockus retired from Mogadore (Ohio) Local Schools with 30 years of service in June 2015. She taught first grade throughout her career at Mogadore. Kim was awarded the prestigious Jennings Scholar award while teaching at OH Somers Mogadore Local, taught kindergarten at Community Christian, and was the Assistant to the Director prior to teaching first grade in the public school system. She and her husband Daryl reside in Akron, Ohio. The couple enjoys spending time with their two grandchildren and travel frequently to California.

1981

09 **Grace Fischer** and her husband Keith were able to stand on their seventh continent in December 2016 when they traveled to Antarctica.

1984

Dan Waller lives in Jensen Beach, Fla., with his wife Sherry. God blessed the Wallers with four children and seven grandchildren. Dan began a home-based lighting contracting business in 1995 that God grew into one of the largest and most energy-efficient L.E.D. lighting contractors in California and Florida. In addition to business, Dan is a part of Kairos International Prison Ministries and is scheduled to lead their four-day weekend in October. Dan was a member of the Morning Star Singers, Taylor World Outreach, and Young Life while at Taylor.

1988

10 **Tim Hirons** '89, **Rob Hanlon**, **Rod Ogilvie** '87, **Nathan Harvey** '87, **Tom Flannagan**, and **Randy Crowder**, mostly third floor Wengatz men, met on the Ogilvie Family Farm outside of Franklin, Tenn., in September 2016.

1992

11 **Alicia (Helyer) Brummeler** published her book, *Everywhere God: Exploring the Ordinary Places*, in December 2016. *Everywhere God* is a story of finding God in everyday life. Alicia and her husband **Brad** '90 have a college-age son and a teenage daughter. They live in Long Island, N.Y.

1993

Brian Biedebach and wife Anita recently completed a 19-year mission assignment in Central Africa. Brian has joined the faculty of the Master's Seminary in Los Angeles, Calif.

1996

Anne (Oliver) Smith and her husband Randy were blessed with the arrival of their son Levi James on September 7, 2016.

1997

Todd Evans is the senior pastor at Bancroft Congregational Church, in Perry, Mich. He and his wife Amber live in Perry.

1999

12 **Kent Salsbery** and his wife Lindsay welcomed their baby son Logan Macfarland, born on January 29, 2017.

2000

13 Taylor alumni of Bergwall Hall gathered in March 2017. Pictured: (Back row) **Ben Wickstra** '03, **Austin Klein** '01, **Bob Bryant** '02, **Chris Mitchell**, **Joel Sonnenberg**, **Tommy Morelock** '02, **Craig Child** '02, **Chris Masek**, **David Kauffman** and **Chris Murphy** '99; (Front Row) **Derek Rust** '01, **Justin Michaels** '01, **Adrien Chabot** '03, **Nate Hulfish** '01 and **Michael Thies** '02.

Todd Stewart has been named the 2017 Stephen A. Backer Teacher of the Year for Carmel Clay Schools (CCS) in Indiana. He has been a Social Studies teacher at Clay Middle School since August 2005.

2003

14 **Erin (Van Buren) Crandall** and her husband Tyler welcomed their second daughter Eden Marie on July 5, 2016. She joins big sister Nora Lou (3). The family of four resides in Muncie, Ind.



**SERVANT
LEADERS
MARKED WITH A
PASSION**

2004

15 Clark and **Martina (Graber) Cully** welcomed their second daughter Arlee Grace in December 2015. Big sister Reeva is enjoying her new role.

2005

Andrew Shaffer is in the Seminary Master's Degree program through Fresno Pacific University after a career in information technology.

16 **Pam (McClaine) Wallace** and her husband Glenn are pleased to announce the birth of their seventh son, Jackson Gideon, who was born on November 17, 2016. He joins Glennie, Jonnie, Will, Josh, Peyton and Ben.

2006

17 **Nathan Diepstra** and his wife Amy welcomed their baby son Zac Andrew, born the day after Christmas. Zac joins brothers Wes (3) and Graham (2).

Justin Zimmerman and his wife Sarah welcomed their son Ansel David into the world in December. He joins his big sister Harper (2). The family resides in Morton, Ill.

2007

Sarah (Leonard) Normansell and her husband Jeffrey are celebrating the birthday of their first daughter Samantha Emmalynn, born on May 6, 2016.

2008

Bradley Wood joined the Marketing and Communications Department at Earlham College Richmond, Ind., as the lead web developer.

2009

18 **Laura Brocker** married Eric Stevenson on October 17, 2015, in Bonita Springs, Fla. They were joined by Taylor alumni including: **Caitlin (Seaks) Finch '12, Christine Sullivan, Bethany (Webb '11) Zander**, along with Laura's siblings **Matthew Brocker '10, Phillip Brocker '14** and **Michael Brocker '14**. A week later Laura and Eric had a reception in Ohio where additional Taylor grads joined them to celebrate: **Amy Barnett '94, Ben Larson '12, Rachel (Aigner) Lewellyn, Amanda (Marshall) Roberts** and **Jessica (Cuthbert '06) Voldrich**.

2010

19 **Brittany Johnson** married Tim Noll. The wedding party included Taylor alumni **Elizabeth Satern '11, Angela (Bennett '11) Thiel** and **Sunkyo "Sam" Seo '12**.

Curt Merlau accepted a position as Director of Sales with Sells Group in Indianapolis, Ind.

2012

20 **Nate and Jillian (King '10) Wynalda** welcomed their firstborn, a baby boy named James David (JD), into their family on March 28, 2015. They reside in Grand Rapids, Mich., where Nate works for the family company Wynalda Packaging as a salesman and Jillian is a stay-at-home mom.

21 **Rachel Beeh** married Sam McHale on May 21, 2016. Taylor alumni in attendance included: **Jeff Goodman '09, Jon (and Kara) Cavanagh '98, Jake Fulton '10, Joe Casey '11, Becca (Gillespie) Casey, Kayt Watts, Tom Rutzen '14, Kelly (McKevitt) Cocking, Katelin Jones '11, Mackenzie Teft, Taylor (Hale) Middlesworth, Adam Middlesworth '13, Stefanie Enger, Margee Plass, Jenna Stupar, Bryan Beeh '05, Katie (Brose '06) Beeh, Jordan Hawkins '06, Rebecca (Beeh '07) Hawkins, Audra (Stratton '06) Spradley, Jim Fansler '76, Angela (Merrell '76) Fansler, Carol (McGregor) Stratton '78 and Larry Stratton '77.**

2013

Becca Chase married Will Unruh in July 2016. The couple resides in Colorado Springs.

2014

22 **Sarah Hughes** married **Strother Wilson** on January 14, 2017, in St. Louis, Mo. Taylor alumni in the wedding party included **Logan Belgrave, Joel Clark, Elliot Day '15, Taylor Hughes '12, Christiana (Dithrich) Poulsou, Kate (Krause) Schuman** and **Sarah Stratton**.

Becky (Jacobs) Rayle has joined the Englewood district office of Northwestern Mutual in Chicago as a recruiter. Becky will play an integral role in attracting and selecting talented individuals who share the company's core values, want to be part of an innovative and collaborative culture, and seek to build enduring relationships with clients to help them achieve financial security. Prior to being named a recruiter, Becky was a volunteer retention manager for By The Hand Club For Kids, an after-school program for at-risk children in Chicago. Today, she volunteers with the non-profit as a tutor and mentor in their program's Englewood location.

23 **Daniel Aust** married **Lauren Anderson '15** on August 21, 2016, in Minneapolis, Minn. Members of the bridal party included **Abby (Sells '15) Miller, Haley (Kurr '15) Rossi, Ally Horine '15, Alexandra Mahdasian '15, Hannah Anderson, Sarah Collins '15, Leah Anderson '13, Yu Bin Choi '13, Kevin Miller, Stu Poulsou, Nate Vogel, Heath Moser and Lane Gramling**. Lauren is a second year dental student at the University of Minnesota School of Dentistry.

IN MEMORIAM

Then the King will say to those on his right, "Come, you who are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world." —Matthew 25:34

We remember these members of the Taylor community who have gone to be with the Lord.

1943

24 Dr. Paul P. Williams passed away on July 15, 2016. He was the founding president of Lake-Sumter State College in 1962, and was named President Emeritus by Lake-Sumter's Board of Trustees when he retired in 1981. The Lake-Sumter's Fine Arts Center is also named in his honor. Paul was a veteran of World War II. He returned to Taylor University, as Director of Health and Physical Education and Head Football and Baseball Coach. Paul was listed in Who's Who in American Education in 1951, and held memberships in the National Education Association, Florida Education Association, and numerous other educational and service organizations. For over 50 years, Paul enjoyed RV travel and visited every state and neighboring countries. He is survived by his wife, son, stepchildren, grandchildren, step-grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

1948

25 Reverend William "Bill" Lyndon Stone, long-time Oscoda, Mich., resident, passed away January 14, 2017, in Venice, Fla. Believing that "faith without works is dead" (James 2), Bill embodied community activism. Some of the numerous boards upon which he served included: Domestic Action Program Chair, Department of Defense, Wurtsmith AFB; President, Hotline Crisis Intervention Phone Ministry; Trustee, Charter Township of Oscoda Board; Chair, Iosco County Township Association; Member, Alcona County Children and Youth Services Council; Director, AuSable County Community Mental Health Board. Among his many accolades, Bill was the recipient of a US Congressional Citation for such service and was just as proud of being inducted into the Chippewa Tribe for years of service to the Oscoda Indian Mission.

1949

Genevieve "Gigi" (Beischer) Beattie died on January 25, 2017. While at Taylor, she fell in love with **Harold Beattie '50** and they were married in 1950. Gigi delighted in serving Jesus by helping others at home, at church, at school, and in the community. Gigi's enthusiastic and generous spirit touched the lives of many students, friends and family during her time on earth, and she will be deeply missed. Gigi was preceded in death by her parents, her husband Harold, and her brother. She is survived by her sons, grandchildren, sister, many nieces, nephews, cousins, and friends.

1950

Gordon W. Johnson died February 13, 2017, surrounded by family. He was 94. His faith in God was an anchor point in his life. After he graduated from Taylor, he became a lay pastor at a church in New Castle, Ind., serving there for two years. In addition, he shared his faith in a number of churches, especially in their summer youth programs. To further his goal in teaching, mainly at a Christian school, he completed graduate courses at several colleges and seminaries. In 1962, Gordon and his family moved to Grand Forks, ND, where he taught at Valley Jr. High for 24 years before retiring in 1986. Gordon is survived by and will be deeply missed by his wife Delores, two daughters, five grandchildren, three great-grandchildren, his sister, and many nieces and nephews.

1951

Martha L. Oechsle went to be with the Lord on February 13, 2017, in Fort Wayne, Ind. Martha served as a teacher in Maryland, North Dakota and Indiana. She also served as a pre-school director in Winamac, Ind. Martha was a member of Covenant United Methodist Church, the United Methodist Women, Adventurers, and Parkview Senior Club. She loved supporting the local arts. Her greatest joy was spending time with her family. Surviving are her husband of 66 years **Harold Oechsle '52**, children Elaine (David) Stowell, Barbara Oechsle, Douglas Oechsle, **Janis (Kevin '86) Davidson '87** and daughter of the heart, **Joyce Rinker '70**. She is also survived by 11 grandchildren, a great-grandchild due in August, and several nieces and nephews.

F. James "Jim" Norris Sr. died February 3, 2017. Jim enjoyed traveling, spending time with his family and serving those in need. He was a member of the New Freedom Church, a proud veteran of the United States Marine Corps, and was active with the Sons of Civil War. Jim was a dedicated volunteer for the Gideon's Ministry, Matthew 25, Salvation Army, Warren County Historical Society and Interfaith. Jim is survived by his loving wife of 65 years, Charlene, his children, grandchildren, one great-granddaughter, and many nieces and nephews.

1952

Jack D. Patton went to be with the Lord on January 27, 2017. He was 96. After serving in WWII as a chaplain's assistant, Jack enrolled at Taylor and graduated with a B.A. Following his graduation, he joined the faculty of Taylor's Art Department and earned his Master's degree from Ball State University. During his tenure, Jack rose to the position of chair of the department. After he retired in 1979, he relocated to Florida and lived in Bradenton, Ft. Lauderdale, and the Orlando areas. Jack was a gifted evangelist, artist and a tremendous friend who will be deeply missed by those who knew and loved him.

1955

Sue (Cheesman) Blair passed away in Huntington, Ind., on January 25, 2017. Sue taught home economics, speech and English in both Wells and Huntington counties. Along with being a homemaker, she partnered in the operation of Seldom Rest Farms. Her favorite hobbies included entertaining friends and family, reading and traveling. She was a member of Hope Missionary Church, where she taught Sunday School and was involved in Bible studies for many years. Sue was well known for book reviews, public speaking and drama. She is survived by her husband Clarence, to whom she was married for 62 years, four children, 14 grandchildren, and eight great-grandchildren.

**TO MINISTER
CHRIST'S
REDEMPTIVE LOVE
AND TRUTH TO A
WORLD IN NEED**



24



27



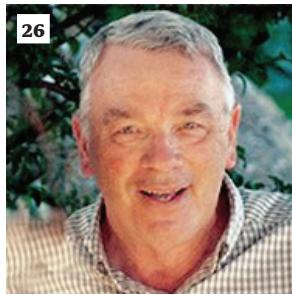
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29



25



26

1956

Doris B. Starner died on September 25, 2016. She enjoyed traveling and spending winters in Florida, where she developed a whole new family of friends. She contributed to Habitat for Humanity, helping build and finish several homes, and was an avid tennis player, participating locally and in statewide events. Doris is remembered and loved for her love of cooking and service to her family, loved ones and friends. She is survived by her husband **Bernard Starner**, her children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

1959

Gretchen (Miller) Loomis, of Valparaiso, Ind., passed away December 13, 2016. Gretchen was a librarian at Northview Elementary School and was a member of First Baptist Church in Valparaiso. She was a loving wife and mother who loved children, playing piano, reading, and enjoying her church family.

Elaine "Oogie" (Booth) Seelig went to be with the Lord on February 6, 2017. Oogie was married to George K. Seelig for 56 years. In addition to her love for her husband and family, Elaine loved teaching, working outdoors, gardening and making floral arrangements for friends, interior decorating and spending time with family and grandchildren. She is survived by her husband, three sons and ten grandchildren.

26 David K. Gustafson died on October 7, 2016, after a sudden illness. His family remembers his love of Christ, great Christian music, anything that shoots, engineering projects that often made little sense, and crazy vehicles that made even less sense. Dave's life revolved around service to others and his greatest service was to his deepest love - his church family. He served as a worship leader for 35 years and was always eager to volunteer. Dave is survived by his wife **Joyce (Worgul '62) Gustafson**, two children, and six grandchildren.

1962

Maurice Edward Paul Jr. of Spokane, Wash., passed away in Tucson, Ariz., on January 27, 2017, at sunrise, with his wife and daughters by his side. After years of teaching, he took a position in Oregon as Assistant Principal and later as principal before moving to Spokane in 1987 where he was hired as Assistant Principal at John R. Rogers High School. Mauri spent the last three years of his educational career as Assistant Principal at the Spokane Vocational Skills Center and retired in 2003. He spent his retirement as a snowbird, traveling to Long Beach, Palm Springs and Tucson golfing, fishing and bowling. Mauri was a gentle giant with a huge heart full of love, patience and acceptance. Mauri is survived by his wife, daughters, grandchildren, stepchildren, cousin, niece and nephew.

1967

27 William "Bill" Y. Williams went to be with the Lord on May 7, 2016, at St. Vincent's Hospital in Indianapolis, Ind., after a long illness. Bill was married to his college sweetheart **Linda (Sweet '67)**. He faithfully served the congregation at Church of the Open Door in Elyria, Ohio, as Pastor of Worship and Pastor of Shepherding. Bill felt a great burden in his heart for women facing difficult circumstances in pregnancies and desired to protect the unborn, so in 1986 he spearheaded the effort to found Cornerstone Pregnancy Services in Elyria, Ohio. From his work at the church, teaching piano lessons, leadership for the Pregnancy Services, and caring for his family, Bill spent a lifetime serving his Lord and Savior and modeled Christ-like character. He passed on a heritage of faithfulness and integrity to his children. His survivors include his wife Linda, three children, five grandchildren, his mother, and four siblings.

1975

Rev. Joseph T. Beckley died December 30, 2016, following a long battle with ALS. He served Christian and Missionary Alliance churches in Michigan, New Jersey, Ohio, Connecticut, Kentucky and Pennsylvania. Joseph enjoyed reading, writing stories and poetry, camping, music, and being with friends and family. He is survived by his wife Deborah, his son Aaron (Sarah), daughter Rachel Schwaller (Robert), grandson, brother and sister-in-law.

1996

28 Dana (Domsten) Gretzinger of Grand Haven, Mich., went to be with the Lord on Jan. 19, 2017. Dana was an active member of Hope Reformed Church, and her worship and love of Jesus consumed every part of her life. Her enthusiasm for teaching came from her love of children. Dana's passions included running, music, and camping with her family. Dana is survived by her husband Jimmy; three children, Jamie, Charlie and Scout; parents; and siblings, **Greg (Katy) Domsten '94**, **Missy (Domsten '00) (Ryan '99) Delp**, and **Melanie (Domsten '02) (Scott '07) Barrett**. Dana's Celebration of Life was officiated by **Pastor Tim Taylor '95**.

29 Dr. Ted Dorman, BSCEP Professor Emeritus, went to be with the Lord in March 2017. He served on the Taylor faculty for 21 years prior to his retirement in 2010. He lived the last years of his life in Portland, Ore., and is survived by his wife Lil, daughter Heidi Nelson (Tim), son, **Stephen '11 (Kate)**, and a granddaughter.



WELCOME TO THE NBA

Kyle Stidom '16 says everyone who works in the National Basketball Association has their own “Welcome to the NBA Moment.” Stidom’s moment came soon after he joined the Indiana Pacers’ corporate sales team when he found himself face-to-face with NBA Hall of Famer and Pacers President Larry Bird.

“He stopped and asked how I was doing,” Stidom remembered. “Growing up in Indiana, Larry Bird is an icon. He’s not just an Indiana icon—he’s a basketball icon.”

Stidom, who majored in sports marketing and played for Taylor’s basketball team, serves as the Pacers’ corporate sales manager—a role that allows him to serve as the Pacers’ sales ambassador to hundreds of businesses throughout Central Indiana.

“The door opened up for me to major in what I love and be able to use it,” Stidom said. “The (sport management) program was great at Taylor. It helped me a lot. It prepared me to know what it takes to be successful—not only in my industry, but in life as well.”

PUBLIC COMMENTS SOUGHT

Taylor University is seeking comments from the public about the university in preparation for its periodic evaluation by its regional accrediting agency. Taylor will host a visit March 12-14, 2018, with a team representing the Higher Learning Commission (HLC). Taylor University has been accredited by HLC since 1947. The team will review the institution’s ongoing ability to meet the HLC’s Criteria for Accreditation.

The public is invited to submit comments regarding the Taylor University to the following address:

Public Comment on Taylor University
Higher Learning Commission
230 South LaSalle Street, Suite 7-500
Chicago, IL 60604-1411

The public may also submit comments on HLC’s website at www.hlcommission.org/comment.

Comments must address substantive matters related to the quality of the institution or its academic programs. Comments must be in writing.

All comments must be received by Feb. 9, 2018.

REX BENNETT NAMED VP FOR UNIVERSITY ADVANCEMENT

Rex E. Bennett, an Indianapolis-area executive, lawyer, and college fundraising professional, has been named Vice President for University Advancement at Taylor University.

Bennett, who has served as Vice President for Development-Finance at Indianapolis-based real estate development and management company FSJ, Inc., since March 2016, previously served as an equity member at the Indianapolis law firm of Frost Brown Todd LLC for 16 years.

Prior to that, Bennett practiced law at Indianapolis-based Benesch Dann Pecar, and was Associate Vice President and Vice President for College Advancement at Greenville (Ill.) College from 1989 to 1996.

He holds a Bachelor of Arts in Psychology from Greenville College, Master of Science in Higher Education Administration from Southern Illinois University (Carbondale, Ill.), and a Juris Doctorate from Southern Methodist University College of Law (Dallas, Texas).

Bennett has served on several trustees, governors and directors boards including those of Greenville College, Overseas Council for Theological Education, Inc. (Indianapolis, Ind.), Heartland Film Festival and Heartland Truly Moving Pictures (Indianapolis, Ind.), and Haven Sanctuary for Women (Greenwood, Ind.). He is also a member of the American Bar Association, Indiana Bar Association, and Indianapolis Bar Association.

He and his wife Nancy are parents of two daughters, **Katelyn '09** and **Hannah '12**.

“Taylor University is a respected institution of higher learning with a long and rich history of excellence and Christ-centered commitment,” said Bennett. “Both of our daughters earned their degrees from Taylor, and my wife Nancy and I have truly grown to love and admire Taylor’s students, faculty, staff and alumni. We are thrilled to accept this opportunity to work with President Haines and the rest of the Taylor community.”

Bennett will begin September 1.





GRAMMY-NOMINATED BAND NEEDTOBREATHE

will perform an outdoor concert exclusively for Taylor University Homecoming and Family Weekend guests and Taylor students on Saturday, Oct. 7, at 7:00 pm! Register today at www.taylor.edu/hfw.



ROSIE KERLIN REMEMBERED AS AN EDUCATOR, MENTOR, FRIEND

G. Roselyn (Baugh '55) Kerlin, an educator, friend of Taylor, and longtime member of Taylor University's Board of Trustees, died April 21, after a long illness. She was 82.

Kerlin, known as Rosie by her friends, family and loved ones, was the first woman to serve as chairperson for Taylor's Board of Trustees and is the namesake of Taylor University's G. Roselyn Kerlin Award - an honor that recognizes Taylor alumnae who have provided godly leadership in their personal and professional lives and exhibited an extraordinary commitment to Jesus Christ and others.

She was an elementary school teacher in Hartford City, Martinsville, Speedway and Danville (all in Indiana), and taught homebound Pima Indian children from 1962-66. She also served on the Board of School Trustees for the Danville School Corporation.

Kerlin is survived by her husband of 62 years, **Dr. Joseph C. Kerlin '55**, and four daughters: **M. Rebecca (Kerlin '78) Haak**, M.D., Danville, Ind.; **Beth (Kerlin '80) (Brad) Toben**, Waco, Texas; Mary Ann Alexander, Phoenix, Ariz.; and Lynn (Scott) Sternberg, Tujunga, Calif. Additional family members include her brother and sister, **Dr. David (Sharilyn Barton '68) Baugh '66** and **Rachel (Baugh '72) (Craig) Mulcahy**. She is also survived by nine grandchildren and eleven great-grandchildren, two nieces and four nephews.

Gifts in her memory can be sent to Taylor University; Westbridge Church, 1512 S.C.R. 75 W, Danville, IN 46122; or Kingdom Building Ministries, 14485 E. Evans Ave., Denver, CO 80014.



A FITTING CONCLUSION

On Saturday, May 20, Sherry and I participated in our first Taylor University Commencement as the First Lady and President of this community of learning we love so dearly. Commencement at Taylor is a wonderful experience where we, as a fellowship of believers and learners, celebrate the successful conclusion of one challenging, but rewarding, chapter in the lives of our students and the “commencement” of a new chapter filled with hope, expectation, and good wishes.

At the conclusion of what was a most meaningful commemoration, I asked all of our graduates, each of whom had just received his or her diploma, to stand and move their tassels in unison, signifying the successful conclusion of the college experience. The crowd of family and well-wishers erupted in applause, expressing love for and pride in their graduates. Then, suddenly, at the height of the applause, a deafening “boom” shook the entire facility. The applause stopped instantly as the crowd struggled to understand what had just happened.

I, too, was momentarily at a loss. My first thought was that an explosion had occurred and my mind raced to the potential consequences of such a scenario. However, I realized that the location from which I had heard the ear-splitting sound, to the rear of the Kesler Center, could only mean that we had just experienced a very close lightning strike (indeed, people who actually witnessed the strike and resulting steam rising from the earth confirmed that it hit about 150 feet away.) I turned to the crowd, pointed my finger

to the sky, and said, “It looks like Someone else is also very excited about the Class of 2017.” The crowd laughed approvingly and the fear and concern of a moment before was replaced with joy.

I’ve thought of that brief experience in a celebration-packed day several times since we gathered together. Indeed, I do believe God is most pleased with the young lives we celebrated on that day, and He has high hopes for all they will accomplish for Him in their lives ahead. Each Taylor graduate is special, each has a purpose, and each will be used by our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ as they yield to Him and seek His will in their lives.

In the words of noted clergyman Rick Warren, I say to the Class of 2017: “You are not an accident. You have great value because you were designed in God’s image, He planned your life before you were born, and you were made for His pleasure.” Now, go out into the world, well prepared and equipped, to be salt and light wherever He takes you. You have the love and blessing of the Taylor community undergirding you, and you can count on our ongoing prayers and support throughout your lives ahead.

Paul Lowell Haines '75 EdD, JD, serves as President of Taylor University.



My husband and I brought our two daughters to Taylor in 1988. We loved the Christian atmosphere and Biblical foundation. We were so excited even as we silently prayed, “How will we pay for such a wonderful education for our girls?”

The scholarship programs at Taylor made our dream possible. Now I have a grandson attending Taylor and see the continuing legacy of God’s faithfulness.

I give back because, “God has done exceedingly, abundantly in our lives more than we could ever ask or think.” (Eph. 3:20) I make a yearly gift to various programs including an endowed scholarship, Taylor Scholarship Fund, and Women’s Giving Circle.

Planned giving has also proven to be a great option through a Charitable Gift Annuity and a bequest in my trust. God is so good, to Taylor University and to us. You can never out give God.

Daphna TobeY



Perhaps you would like to discuss your family legacy and how Taylor could be involved through estate planning. For more information, contact Mike Falder '94, Executive Director of Development, at mcfalder@taylor.edu or (765) 998-5538. You can read more online at www.taylor.edu/giftplans.

Taylor's top giving priority is providing additional scholarship support for students. To make a gift to the Taylor Scholarship Fund, please visit www.taylor.edu/giving.

HOPE

Joel Sonnenberg '00 returned to the Taylor campus in May to speak for chapel. Sonnenberg, who was critically burned in a car crash when he was a small child, is now a pastor and married father of three children.

